

# Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

January 14, 2013

[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## Important Dates

December 21 - Jan 25 Rocket into Reading Begins  
January 7-January 15 Bound 4 Success Book Drive  
January 14-January 25 MAP Testing  
January 14 Specials Night (6:00-8:00)  
January 15 Family Literacy Night (6:30-8:00)  
January 21 No School (Martin Luther King Jr. Day)

Dear Families,

## Specials Night & Family Literacy Night

We look forward to seeing all of you at the two evening events this week. Specials Night on Monday night and Tuesday is our Holmes School Family Literacy Night. Our Literacy Night begins at 6:30 pm and lasts until 8:00 pm. The night will entail teachers demonstrating educational activities and games that parents and students can do at home to help strengthen reading strategies.

## Bound 4 Success Book Drive - January 7 through January 15

Please donate your used children's and young adult books to be given to other Holmes families. Books may be sent with students or left at our school office. No adult literature, magazines or textbooks please. For more information contact John McCauley at [jmccauley@op97.org](mailto:jmccauley@op97.org)

## Guilder Activity

Students will have their second Guilder activity on January 25th. Your child's homeroom teacher will be in contact with you this week if it looks like your child has not earned enough Guilders to participate. Look for more information to come home regarding this in-school activity.

## Specials Night is Monday, January 14th at 6 pm!

Parents: you will get to see some of your student's achievements in art, music, physical education, library, and Spanish! Every student in the 5th grade has a special part in the event so please send a note to Mrs. Karia if you are unable to attend.

**We need parent volunteers to help with leading classes from location to location and with taping the event. Please email Mrs. Karia at [akaria@op97.org](mailto:akaria@op97.org) if you can help!**

**Please check the digital backpack for more information!**

**Art** -[Dale Chihuly](#) is an American glass blower with colorful glass sculptures on display all over the world. We have looked carefully at his artwork and watched several videos on [glass blowing](#). Of course, we cannot blow glass, but we have found an exciting alternative. The results will be on display at Specials Night on 1/14.

**Music** - [Check out the website!](#) **Specials Night is Monday, January 14th at 6 pm!** Every student in the 5th grade has a special part in the night so please send a note to Mrs. Karia if you are unable to attend. Unexcused absences will affect your child's grade. If your child does not attend, there will

need to do some playing tests for Mrs. Karia during a lunchtime this week or next week.

**Spanish** - Specials night is January 14th at 6pm. Come see what we have been working on in all our Specials Classes! Spanish blog: <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/>

**Library** - There will be a mandatory Reading Olympics meeting on Monday starting at 11:30. We will check in to make sure all teams are settled, since there have been a few changes since the winter break! Please don't forget that **Monday, January 14** is specials night. Students will be sharing the cookbooks they created before the winter holiday. For more on library happenings, please keep up with us on the library home page (<http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>).

**Physical Education** - Please see Mr. Williams' link ([www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com](http://www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com)) for information.

### **Reading/Literature**

This week we will be finishing up our unit on Using Your Wits. We will be focusing on visualizing and author's perspective. We will have a spelling and comprehension test of Friday. Next week we will be taking the unit 3 test and starting a new novel study with the historical fiction book Johnny Tremain.

### **Language Arts**

This week in language arts we will teach lessons on keyboarding/computer skills, as well as give students time to practice their typing in class. We will begin a short project focusing on voice using the Preamble to the Constitution.

### **Math**

This week, we will work on multiplying fractions. We will start by using a paper folding model and then look at an area model for multiplication. From these models, we will develop an algorithm for fraction multiplication. We will have a short quiz on Friday covering what we discussed during the week.

### **Science**

This week in science we will explore volume and capacity with an experiment that will show that the number of passengers a boat can hold is affected by variables such as placement, water movement and boat size. If your student misses any part of these experiments due to band, orchestra or chorus, it is their responsibility to get lab data from a group member. Please be sure to frequently ask your student about his or her progress on the science fair experiment. The next deadline requires students to provide their hypothesis and procedures by January 25.

### **Social Studies**

This week we will discuss what life was like for colonists in the Southern Colonies. We will also take a closer look at life on a plantation - the different buildings, people and lifestyles found on them. Students will have a quiz on Friday over the Southern Colonies. Next week, students will complete an in-class, group project where they select a colony and research it in greater depth. Students will then present their information to the class in order to teach their classmates something about their chosen colony they did not know before. ***For this project, if you have any used magazines which you would like to donate (not get back), we would greatly appreciate them.***

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

Ms. Kraft  
[fkraft@op97.org](mailto:fkraft@op97.org)

Ms. Manuel  
[mmanuel@op97.org](mailto:mmanuel@op97.org)

Ms. Peterson  
[apeterson@op97.org](mailto:apeterson@op97.org)

Ms. Yigzaw  
[svigzaw@op97.org](mailto:svigzaw@op97.org)